

COVID-19 Testing

Correct as of: 28 April 2020 (15:00)

As you will be aware, Matt Hancock announced that any essential worker with symptoms, and people who live with essential workers and have symptoms who needs a test, will be able to book a test online. This includes all of Esteem school employees.

To book a test, you will need their National Insurance Number along with their work email address. If you have forgotten this or don't have one, please contact your school admin team who will arrange for this information to get to you or for you to be set-up with one.

Information about testing:

Why are the UK government testing staff?

The objectives of testing are:

- a) To confirm that staff have COVID-19 if they test positive
- b) To allow some staff to return to work more quickly if the test is negative
- c) To monitor and help control the spread of COVID-19

What is the test?

The test is for the COVID-19 virus to see whether people have the infection.

The testing process

The test involves taking a swab of the nose and the back of the throat, which can be done by the person themselves (self-administered) or by someone else (assisted). The different ways you can get tested are covered below. This is then sent to the laboratory.

Who can have the test?

Staff and household contacts who are eligible for the test are:

- Symptomatic staff employed by the NHS, other public sector organisations and independent social care providers who are self isolating; AND
- Symptomatic household contacts of the staff of the NHS, other public sector organisations and independent social care providers where the staff member is self-isolating.

The test must be carried out in the first 4 days of illness

How do I arrange a test?

To book a test please visit this link to the booking portal: www.gov.uk/coronavirus

What happens after I have submitted my request?

We will use the information you provide to confirm whether testing is required and contact you with details of what to do next. Assuming you meet the above criteria on who can have a test.

- If you are symptomatic, you will be invited to be tested. No other household members require testing.
- If you do not have symptoms, but other family members do have symptoms, we will arrange for them to be tested. All symptomatic adult family members will be tested. You will not be tested.
- You should arrive at the testing centre at your allotted time – you will be asked to sign consent to return results to you by phone.

Regional testing sites

The UK government are establishing a network of drive-through regional testing sites. They aim to open 48 sites by the end of April.

This video explains the process for drive-through testing: [Coronavirus tests for essential workers](#)

Home testing

Home test kits can be delivered to someone's door so they can test themselves and their family without leaving the house. Home test kit availability will be initially limited, but more will become available.

If you have been delivered a home testing kit or have been given a self-test kit at a regional test site, here is a tutorial video that supports the written instructions in your pack, from Dr Amir Khan:

[How to take a coronavirus self-test swab](#)

Mobile testing units

Mobile testing units are being developed. They will operate out of a regional testing site and travel to offer tests where they are needed.

Satellite centres

NHS capability is being increased by providing test kits directly to 'satellite' centres at places like hospitals that have a particularly urgent or significant need.

NHS facilities

Testing within an NHS facility such as a hospital is available for patients and some NHS workers. Across all these testing methods, there is a network of couriers who collect the completed samples and deliver them safely to one of our laboratories. The swab samples are analysed at our labs and the result is communicated back to the individual.

The UK government aim to return test results within 48 hours of a swab being taken, or within 72 hours for a home test. We, as your employing organisation, will also be informed.



Please **DO NOT** just turn up at the site without an appointment as you will not be tested.



If you or your household member **DO NOT** meet the criteria you will not be tested.


HM Government



Coronavirus

Wash your hands with soap and water more often for 20 seconds

Use a tissue to turn off the tap.
Dry hands thoroughly.



1 Palm to palm



2 The backs of hands



3 In between the fingers



4 The back of the fingers



5 The thumbs



6 The tips of the fingers

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS